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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE:

SUBJECT V-Weapon Development at Zentral-Werke 3
in Sommerda

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SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN

DISTRIBUTION

RK1	X	X		X	X	X	X				
STATE	WAR	NAVY	JUSTICE	R & E	C & D	AIR	BI				

25X1 1. A part of the Rheinmetall Borsig plant in Sommerda (J39) is now
 25X1 listed as Zentral-Werke 3, one of an alleged six Zentral-Werke (ZW).
 25X1 Locations are given as Bleicherode, Nordhausen, and Sondershausen.

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Buildings

2. The Sommerda set-up consists of the following:

a) Administration building.

b) A large "unshapely" hall at the southwest corner of the factory
 near Gate 6, not far from the Unstrutstrasse bridge. It has a flat
 roof and large windows. This building houses one "vehicle" (cover
 name for V-2). Motor noises point to experiments with high speeds.

c) Building 4400 has one entrance-exit, is 120 meters long, 12
 meters wide, three floors high, and its partly flat roof is tiled.
 This building is surrounded by trees. Its ground floor contains
 13 milling machines, 10 lathes, 10 drilling machines, one shaping
 machine, one surface-planing machine, two cylinder-grinding
 machines, and fitter equipment. All these machines came to Sommerda
 from dismantled factories and have been repaired. Separated from
 them by a wooden partition are new drilling units which are still
 being assembled. The first floor contains offices, and is also
 used by ten mechanics. There are no machines and some of the space
 is empty. The second floor is empty.

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d) East of Building 4400, a new hall is being set up. It measures 30 x 50 meters, is three floors high, and its central section extends up to the ceiling. Large (machinery ?) units are being installed, some of them based in concrete.

Activities

3. Phantom plans were drawn up in July 1946. Its lid is 420 x 550 mm in size, with 60 "Zündkästen" 80 x 100 x 160 mm, and a twenty-fold flexible cable. The range-finding equipment is good. Damaged half-finished material and reprocessed scrap is used. The two large side surfaces of the testing block for a ground unit are aluminum plates which can be unscrewed and removed; these are 2 mm thick and 450 x 560 in size. The two small side pieces are equipped with movable flaps. Each of the two small side pieces has a four-cornered conduit of sheet steel (nach innen schräg oben); their size is 100 x 120 x 150 mm.

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5. On 30 September 1946, Dr. Wilhelmi of Bleicherode came to ZW 3 in a truck to fetch the ground testing equipment for the Phantom, which had been stored in Building 4400.

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Comment: [redacted] Wilhelmi visited ZW 3 on 17 September in company with a Mr. German. Following this visit, it was rumored that the electro department would be transferred to either the Lindner or Brundwell plant buildings in Sondershausen. This last would seem garbled. It may refer to the Brunnquell plant in Sondershausen and perhaps the Lindner factory in Ammendorf. Both Wilhelmi and German are new characters in this particular scene [redacted]

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6. The Periscope - one model, with ten on order - was made at the end of September 1946, in Building 4400. Its "Lichte Weite" is 200 mm and it is about 2,000 mm in length. Its base is an iron pipe whose flanges cover an aluminum pipe. The upper reflector casing is aluminum, welded with reflector bearing, the reflector support being so placed as to rotate around the horizontal axis. The reflector casing is open on one side only, at a ninety degree angle toward the periscope axis, and can be closed by a flap.
7. A frame about 160 x 160 cm was made in Building 4400 at the end of September. It consists of angles and flat iron and has three guides placed parallel to each other for vertically movable tins. Four of these frames are said to have been produced.
8. A few scale beams, used for determining the center of gravity, are lying around in the factory grounds.
9. V-2's were apparently delivered to the ZW 3 in early August. These were aboard two special freight cars, 18 meters in length.

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10. Seen on a ZW 3 rail siding was a railway car of a type said to be in production by several factories equipped to do this sort of work. There are remodeled express cars (D-Wagen), equipped with guiding rails for V-2. The cars have four axles and are painted green. The curtains are drawn and the cars carry normal inscriptions in German and Russian - except that fronts bear the sign, "Attention! Shunt carefully. Do not push."

Personnel

11. The "Fahrzeug-Abteilung" is administered separately within Rheinmetall Borsig. It employs 150 scientists and 150 workers and office employees, as compared to Rheinmetall's 2,000-2,500 employees. Engineers, draughtsmen, and officer workers receive monthly food allocations according to their positions, but only ten percent of the workers enjoy this privilege. This discrimination has produced great discontent. Comment: "Fahrzeug-Abteilung" (Vehicle Department) is the cover name for the V-2 department).

Security

12. The factory is guarded by twenty German policemen and a large number of other guards described as being of advanced age. The three buildings described in para. 2 (a,b,c) are guarded by Russian sentries as well. A stricter check of identification papers began on 18 September.

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